Assignment 8

DESIGN A MASHUP

'A mashup is a web application that combines data from more than one source into a single integrated tool; an example is the use of cartographic data from Google Maps to add location information to real-estate data from Craigslist, thereby creating a new and distinct web service that was not originally provided by either source.

'Mashup originally referred to the practice in pop music (notably hip-hop) of producing a new song by mixing two or more existing pieces. Content used in mashups is typically sourced from a third party via a public interface or API [Application Programming Interface] (web services) …

'Other methods of sourcing content for mashups include Web feeds (e.g. RSS or Atom), and screen scraping. Many people are experimenting with mashups using Amazon, eBay, Flickr, Google, Microsoft, Yahoo and YouTube APIs, which has led to the creation of the mashup editor.'

[From http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup_%28web_application_hybrid%29 http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup is a partial translation in Italian.]

An imaginary example: SpritzHitz. This mashes two data sources – 1) an online postal map of Venice, and 2) an online list of Venetian bars, continually star-rated by users:

In the map database, the relevant elements are each catastal site [palazzo, blocchetto, ecc.]. The relevant attributes of each site are its postal area [CAP], street number [numero civico], and X and Y cartographic coordinates.

In the bar database, the relevant elements are each bar. The relevant attributes of each bar are its name, CAP, numero civico, closing day, spritz price, and current average star-rating by users.

1 Browse some of the mashups in http://www.programmableweb.com/mashups

2 Imagine a new mashup from two (existing or imaginary) data sources

3 On one or more A3 sheets, list the relevant elements of the two data sources and their attributes

4 Consider: Who is your audience? In how many ways could you represent the data? What way would be most appropriate for your audience? Why?

5 On one or more A3 sheets, design the web page which mashes these two sources

6 Write your full name *(nome e cognome)* on your display

7 When you arrive at the next lesson, immediately fix the display to the wall and be prepared to explain it to everyone.

This is primarily a design assignment, not a technology assignment. Please approach this assignment as a designer.